

## **INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT**

### **Between Washoe County, the City of Reno, and the City of Sparks Regarding the Establishment of a Study Board for Regional Fire Protection and Emergency Services Options**

This Interlocal Agreement (“Agreement”) is entered into by and between Washoe County, a political subdivision of the State of Nevada (“Washoe County”), the City of Reno, a municipal corporation of the State of Nevada (“City of Reno”), and the City of Sparks, a municipal corporation of the State of Nevada (“City of Sparks”), collectively referred to as the “Parties.”

#### **RECITALS**

WHEREAS, Senate Bill No. 319, passed during the 83<sup>rd</sup> Session of the Nevada Legislature, requires Washoe County, the City of Reno, and the City of Sparks to establish, by interlocal agreement pursuant to NRS 277.080 to 277.180, a board to conduct a study regarding the creation of a county fire protection district; and

WHEREAS, local jurisdictions within Washoe County have engaged in ongoing discussions about regionalizing fire protection and emergency services, including exploration of models beyond the scope of a single fire protection district to enhance collaboration, efficiency, and service delivery; and

WHEREAS, the study is to evaluate the consolidation of fire protection services within specified territory in Washoe County, Reno, and Sparks, and determine the potential impacts, benefits, and feasibility of forming a single county fire protection district; and

WHEREAS, the Parties agree that regional coordination and analysis is essential to optimize public safety service delivery, promote cost efficiencies, and provide comprehensive information for future legislative or operational decisions; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 319 of the 83<sup>rd</sup> Session of the Nevada Legislature requires the Parties to jointly share in the study’s costs, authorizes the Parties to contract with external consultants, and requires the preparation and submission of a report of findings and recommendations no later than December 31, 2026;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises set forth herein, the Parties agree as follows:

#### **1. PURPOSE**

- 1.1. The purpose of this Agreement is to establish the Regional Fire Study Board (“Board”) required under Section 15 of Senate Bill 319 to conduct a study concerning regional fire services options including, but not limited to, the creation of a county fire protection district.

## **2. BOARD MEMBERSHIP**

2.1. The Board shall consist of the following voting members:

2.1.1. Two (2) members of the Washoe County Board of County Commissioners, appointed by the Washoe County Board of County Commissioners;

2.1.2. Two (2) members of the Reno City Council, appointed by the Reno City Council;

2.1.3. Two (2) members of the Sparks City Council, appointed by the Sparks City Council.

2.2. Each of the Parties shall designate its representatives by formal action and notify the other Parties in writing.

2.3. A majority of members constitutes a quorum. Any action taken by the Board must be approved by a majority of all members, including at least one (1) member from each of the Parties.

## **3. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BOARD**

3.1. The Board shall:

3.1.1. Evaluate impacts of regional collaboration and/or consolidated fire district on response times, preparation, and cost of fire protection services

3.1.2. Determine legal mechanisms necessary to consolidate services

3.1.3. Identify any assessments or funding structures required

3.1.4. Review current liabilities and obligations of existing fire departments

3.1.5. Analyze insurance-related implications

3.1.6. Perform other acts necessary to accomplish the study

3.1.7. Prepare and submit a written report with findings and recommendations to the governing body of each of the Parties no later than December 31, 2026

## **4. ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT**

4.1. Washoe County shall act as the administrative lead for scheduling meetings, preparing agendas, maintaining records, and managing contracts or consultant support unless otherwise agreed in writing.

4.2. The Board may contract with consultants or other entities to support its work, subject to Board approval and availability of funding.

## **5. COST SHARING**

- 5.1. The Parties shall share equally in the cost of the study, including consultant fees, materials, and administrative expenses, unless the Board recommends and the Parties agree to an alternative cost-sharing formula.
- 5.2. Each Party shall include appropriate funding in its budget to meet its obligations under this Agreement.

## **6. COMPLIANCE AND PUBLIC MEETINGS**

- 6.1. The Board is a public body and subject to the provisions of Nevada Open Meeting Law (NRS Chapter 241).

## **7. TERM AND TERMINATION**

- 7.1. This Agreement shall be effective upon execution by all Parties and remain in effect until July 1, 2027, unless terminated earlier by mutual written agreement.
- 7.2. A Party may withdraw from the Agreement with 30 days' written notice to the other Parties, provided that the withdrawing Party remains responsible for its share of costs incurred prior to withdrawal.

## **8. MISCELLANEOUS**

- 8.1. Governing Law: This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Nevada.
- 8.2. Indemnification: Each Party agrees to be responsible for the acts and omissions of its own officers, employees, and agents to the extent allowed by law.
- 8.3. Entire Agreement: This Agreement represents the entire agreement between the Parties and may only be amended in writing signed by all Parties.
- 8.4. Severability: If any provision of this Agreement is held invalid, the remainder shall remain in full force and effect.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the undersigned have executed this Agreement as of the dates below.

**WASHOE COUNTY**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Alexis Hill, Chair

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
County Clerk

**CITY OF RENO**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Hillary Schieve, Mayor

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

**CITY OF SPARKS**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Ed Lawson, Mayor

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk